



**STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
POLICY DIRECTIVE**

Policy No. DOC 3.2.2	Subject: TACTICAL TEAMS
Chapter 3: FACILITY/PROGRAM OPERATIONS	Page 1 of 3
Section 2: Safety and Emergency Procedures	Effective Date: Sept. 1, 1998
Signature: /s/ Mike Ferriter, Director	Revised: 01/03/12

I. POLICY

It is the policy of the Department of Corrections to guide and establish tactical teams capable of responding to situations that compromise safety and security.

II. APPLICABILITY

Department-owned and contracted secure facilities and programs, as specified in contract.

III. DEFINITIONS

Emergency Response Team (ERT) - Means a team of personnel trained to respond to situations that require special skills beyond the capabilities of regular shift staff.

Quick Response Team (QRT) - Means a team of first responders in a secure care facility that are designated and trained to contain and resolve emergencies.

Specialized Response Team (SRT) - Means a team of personnel trained to resolve disturbances, effect hostage rescue through tactical means, and control perimeter security and crowds; members must successfully pass the POST certified Basic Swat course within the first year of participation.

IV. DEPARTMENT DIRECTIVES

A. Response Team Requirements

1. All facilities will establish and maintain a quick response team (QRT).
2. The Montana State Prison (MSP) will establish and maintain a specialized response team (SRT) and provide emergency response support, when needed, in coordination with law enforcement, for the following facilities:
 - a. Montana Women's Prison (MWP);
 - b. Crossroads Correctional Center (CCC);
 - c. Treasure State Correctional Training Center (TSCTC);
 - d. Pine Hills Youth Correctional Facility (PHYCF);
 - e. Cascade County Regional Detention Center;
 - f. Dawson County Correctional Facility (DCCF); and
 - g. Riverside Youth Correctional Facility (RYCF).
3. Emergency response teams (ERTs) will be established according to the following:
 - a. MSP will maintain an ERT and provide additional emergency response support to TSCTC and RYCF;
 - b. DCCF will maintain an ERT and provide additional emergency response support to MWP and PHYCF; and

Policy No. DOC 3.2.2	Chapter 3: Facility/Program Operations	Page 2 of 3
Subject: TACTICAL TEAMS		

- c. Cascade County Regional Detention Center, Missoula County Detention Center, and CCC will each maintain an ERT.
4. Each facility with a SRT and/or ERT will develop procedures to include the following:
 - a. a selection process for all team positions;
 - b. the number of required personnel for each team;
 - c. methods to ensure teams are available when needed;
 - d. training requirements in accordance with [DOC 1.4.1, Staff Development and Training](#);
 - e. methods for maintaining records of activations and operations; and
 - f. an organizational structure that includes, at minimum, a team commander and assistant team commander; team commanders will be responsible for maintaining the following records:
 - 1) an active member roster that include 24-hour contact telephone numbers;
 - 2) member applications;
 - 3) qualification testing records and applicable certificates; and
 - 4) issued equipment.

B. Equipment

1. SRT teams, and QRT teams will be equipped to perform the assigned tasks and provide personal protection while considering facility or program type, history and culture, population type, and age of offenders in accordance with [DOC Policy 3.1.7 RD, Emergency Equipment and Armory Operations](#). Equipment may include, and is not limited to:
 - a. firearms in accordance with [DOC Policy 3.1.31, Firearms](#);
 - b. appropriate kinetic stunning devices;
 - c. chemical agent launchers;
 - d. ballistic vest protection;
 - e. helmets with face shields; and
 - f. distraction devices.
2. ERT teams will be equipped to perform the assigned tasks and provide personal protection with the following equipment, at minimum:
 - a. protective gear to include vests, shin guards, elbow pads, and gloves;
 - b. helmets with face shields;
 - c. pin shields; and
 - d. gas masks.

B. Deploying ERT and SRT Assistance

1. A facility requesting ERT or SRT assistance is responsible for all costs associated with team deployment.
2. The administrator of a facility in need of SRT or ERT assistance will:
 - a. request SRT or ERT assistance through the Department duty officer;
 - b. upon receiving authorization from the Department duty officer, contact the administrator of the sending facility to communicate the following:
 - 1) team mission description and projected length of deployment; and

Policy No. DOC 3.2.2	Chapter 3: Facility/Program Operations	Page 2 of 3
Subject: TACTICAL TEAMS		

- 2) incident status and preliminary plans.
 - c. designate a staging area and staff liaison to facilitate resolution of team needs;
 - d. approve deactivation of the team; and
 - e. debrief the team's activities in coordination with the team commander.
- 3. Upon notice that deployment has been authorized, the team commander will report to the administrator of the receiving facility.
- 4. The team commander and security chief of a facility responding as emergency response support to separate facility or program will determine specifics of activation according to team training and capabilities.

V. CLOSING

Questions concerning this policy should be directed to the Department Emergency Preparedness Planning Manager.

VI. REFERENCES

- A. [2-15-112, MCA](#); [53-1-203, MCA](#)
- B. *DOC Policies* [DOC 1.4.1, Staff Development and Training](#); [DOC Policy 3.1.7 RD, Emergency Equipment and Armory Operations](#); [3.1.31, Firearms](#)

VII. ATTACHMENTS

None